



The VOTER

Bulletin of the League of Women Voters of Lawrence-Douglas County, KS
PO Box 1072 • Lawrence KS 66044-1072

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization encouraging the informed, active participation of citizens in government & influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

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Voter Editor:	Ruth Lichtwardt	lightwatcher @ gmail.com	
Local League	www.lawrenceleague.com	www.facebook.com/lwvldc	www.twitter.com/lwvldc
State League:	www.lwvk.org	lwv.kansas @ gmail.com	785-234-5152
National League	www.lwv.org		202-429-1965

League Calendar

A Reminder from our Treasurer: Membership dues for April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022 are due now. For dues structure see membership application on last page of this issue.

Thursday, May 20th	Noon - 1:00 pm	Hot Topic: Rachel Sweet, Regional Director of Planned Parenthood , will discuss recent legislative events in Kansas. Zoom link on page 2.
Thursday, May 20th	6:00 pm	DEI Committee Meeting. <i>via Zoom.</i> Committee members will receive link by email.
Monday, May 24th	7:00 pm	Hot Topic: Kristin Salmans, delegate to the UN Conference on the Status of Women for the LWV , will review her experience. Link on page 2.
Saturday, June 5th	8:30 am - 1:00 pm	Free Electronic Recycling Event. Bring your e-waste for drive-through drop-off recycling! (There is a charge for CRT [cathode ray tube] TVs & monitors but everything else is free!) Link for details and what can be recycled is on page 3.
Tuesday, June 8th	6:30 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. <i>via Zoom.</i> All interested League members are invited to attend. Recurring Zoom link on page 3.
Wednesday, June 9th	5:30 pm	Sustainability Advisory Board. See page 3 for link.
Saturday, June 12th	7:00 am	Tabling Opportunity at the Farmers Market, 824 New Hampshire St. Voter Services will be providing voter registration and education at the downtown Farmers Market on second Saturday mornings this summer. See page 2 for link to Signup Genius.
Sunday, June 13th	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Juneteenth Panel on Virtual Film Screen of Freedom Summer and Fannie Lou Hammer , co-sponsored with Lawrence Public Library. Outdoor event on Library lawn, 707 Vermont St. Article and link on page 3. Rain date June 27, same time.
Tuesday, June 15th	Noon - 1:00 pm	Hot Topic! What are Voting Habits and How Are They Strengthened? <i>via Zoom.</i> Speaker Matt Cravens. Link on page 2.

President's Message



Greetings all!

As I write this, the sun is shining over my freshly planted garden and I am feeling optimistic about what we can accomplish during the remainder of 2021. Forty-two members attended our Annual Meeting last month, a great opportunity to connect, review the last year, vote on our new board, and to give directions to the board. We are strongly committed to Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion (DEI) and to community networking as essential in making our work effective. I look forward to slowly adding in-person events over the next year. Sign up to volunteer here for spring tabling events: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44a9a92babf49-league>.

Our Kansas State LWV will have a booth at the Kansas State fair with many interactive, fun elements. We are signed up to staff the booth on Saturday, September 11, 2021. We need at least two volunteers per shift from 9:00am-9:15pm. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448ACAA2EA0FC1-lwvldc>. It will be a wonderful time (and you will receive an entrance ticket to the fair!)

I am grateful and humbled by the opportunity to serve as your President this year. Please join me in thanking Kristin Salmans for her incredible years as our President. She will be continuing her service as our Vice President and Tracy Matthews has been elected as our President-Elect; what a wonderful, high energy team! A hearty thank you to those who have served on our board in the past and to those who are just joining us; your leadership is much appreciated and your efforts have not gone unnoticed. I am amazed by the dedication of our many volunteers and am thankful for each and every one of you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at emilyapriner@gmail.com or 605-261-0328 with any questions, comments, or needs. Wash your hands, tell those you love how much they mean to you, and stay well.

-Emily Riner

LINKS FOR CALENDAR ITEMS

Want to volunteer for Voter Services? You can find the SignUp Genius form for this spring [here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44a9a92babf49-league) or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44a9a92babf49-league>

Hot Topic! Rachel Sweet with Planned Parenthood Great Plains on May 20 at 11:30 am. There were some difficulties with the form earlier. You can use this link to register or go to our website (Lawrence-League.com), click on the "calendar" on the menu on the left and you will see the event listed. There is a turquoise "register for this event" rectangle. Click on that for a registration form. We will send out the link for the meeting from that registration list. Please call (785) 331-9276 or e-mail me (pettengilldenise@gmail.com) if you have questions. <https://forms.gle/NHd8nvKGkJSMRCSFA>

Hot Topic! Kristin Salmans on the UN Commission on the Status of Women meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83994083592?pwd=TXg3M2M3TlMrb2puQzQ4dGJlVQVjhdz09>

Hot Topic! What are Voting Habits and How Are They Strengthened? with Matt Cravens

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84152749749?pwd=Sl1duOVJhNU5mMwY2VEJEN2ZnZWwrQT09>

LWVL-DC Community Partners Meeting

This is a recurring meeting link for all Community Partners Meetings.

Join Zoom Meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85868570294?pwd=eFRFNHJzjQXVIQlgreG53SHMxLldQQT09>

Meeting ID: 858 6857 0294

Passcode: 656791

Electronic Waste Recycling Event, June 5. List of accepted materials and more information is available here:

[Additional Details and Acceptable Electronic Materials for Recycling](#)

Fluker Award Nomination Form:

<http://bit.ly/FlukerLWV>

LWVL-DC Board Meetings

To join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86368994704?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86368994704?pwd=YVczMEpYR2lWk04lTXc5bCtzbWNzQT09)

[pwd=YVczMEpYR2lWk04lTXc5bCtzbWNzQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86368994704?pwd=YVczMEpYR2lWk04lTXc5bCtzbWNzQT09)

Meeting ID: 863 6899 4704

Passcode: 472392

NOTE: This Zoom link and passcode is the same for every Board meeting.

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting:

These meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm

<https://www.youtube.com/user/lawrenceksvideo>

Past Hot Topic! Meetings:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLHXiojsQvnyqsoRdFxUaQ>

Hot Topic: If you missed our April Hot Topic with Boog Highberger, the recording is available at this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-xEjkW11O54Bqe5JlZoFt8mdp-](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-xEjkW11O54Bqe5JlZoFt8mdp-rHgQLEknXDSTsn8HV2TCi20IM--fQN6bw6-uQ.sg2xgJL-lgkzldx)

[rHgQLEknXDSTsn8HV2TCi20IM--fQN6bw6-](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-xEjkW11O54Bqe5JlZoFt8mdp-rHgQLEknXDSTsn8HV2TCi20IM--fQN6bw6-uQ.sg2xgJL-lgkzldx)

[uQ.sg2xgJL-lgkzldx](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-xEjkW11O54Bqe5JlZoFt8mdp-rHgQLEknXDSTsn8HV2TCi20IM--fQN6bw6-uQ.sg2xgJL-lgkzldx) Passcode: 4w9K^f&q

Learn about the problems facing rural healthcare including many Kansans.

<https://consumer.healthday.com/5-3-finding-a-doctor-is-tough-and-getting-tougher-in-rural-america-2652824914.html>

UPCOMING HOT TOPICS!

On Thursday, May 20th noon to 1:00 PM via Zoom, Rachel Sweet of Planned Parenthood Great Plains will be the speaker. Registration link is on p. 2. The link to the event will be sent out the day before the presentation to those registered.

On Monday, May 24th, 7 PM via Zoom. (note, not the usual day or time) Kristin Salmans will share her experiences of the UN Council on the Status of Women 65. Zoom link on p. 2.

On Tuesday, June 15th noon to 1 PM via Zoom. (note, not the usual day or date.) Matt Cravens, data analyst for Douglas County will present "What are Voting Habits and How are They Strengthened?" Zoom link is on page 2.

In July, the Hot Topic will be La Yarda, the story of the community of railroad workers and their families in Lawrence. Date and time to be announced.

- Denise Pettengill
Chair, Hot Topic Committee
(785)-331-9276

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION FILM & PANEL

Sunday, June 13, 2:00-3:00 pm

Juneteenth Panel on virtual film screening.

To celebrate Juneteenth, Lawrence Public Library and the League of Women Voters are hosting a digital film screening and in-person panel discussion surrounding the documentaries *Freedom Summer* and *Fannie Lou Hamer: Voting Rights Activist*.

Watch both via Lawrence Public Library's free movie-streaming service Kanopy, then join us on the library lawn for a socially-distanced and masked-up panel with local scholars, activists, and educators. [Click here for the info on the Library site and link to Kanopy.](#)

Rain date: June 27th at 2 pm.

FROM VOTER SERVICES: WE NEED YOU AT OUR TABLE!

We continue to table at the Saturday Lawrence downtown farmers' market every second Saturday of each month. We also participate in other community events and farmer's markets and we always need volunteers. This is a great way to engage with the community, enjoy much-needed time outside with real people, and support voter registration and education.

Volunteers help set up a table with League literature about voting deadlines and legislative priorities, registration forms, and free stickers and snacks. We post signage with helpful reminders and greet passers-by. Right now, we often just talk with folks about the city elections this year, and help new residents register to vote, or to re-register after they have moved. We always pair up new volunteers with someone experienced in these events.

Please consider volunteering for one of these community events. You can find the SignUp Genius form for this spring [here](#).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44a9a92babf49-league>

Feel free to contact Sonja Czarnecki (sonya.czarnecki@gmail.com) or Martha Silks (martha.silks@lre.com) if you have any questions and thank you!

LWV DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE REPORT

April 22, 2021

In attendance were Tracy Matthews, Kristin Salmans, Emily Riner, Marjorie Cole, Connie Stoker, Jeanne Klein, Tamara Cash, and Kay Johnson.

We had a lively discussion of Fair Housing and affordable housing reflecting on the article that was sent in by Kay. We discussed several books and the study by Bill Dedman completed regarding Fair Housing violations by Relators on Long Island (<http://bit.ly/BillDedmanStudy>).

Next, we discussed the hard work that was completed by the DEI Movie Panel sub-committee. Partnering with the library, the LWV will co-sponsor a discussion panel after participants have watched the documentaries Freedom Summer and Fannie Lou Hammer. The documentaries are free with a library card utilizing Kanopy. There will be a panel discussion on June 13 at 2:00 on the library lawn with a rain date for June 27 at the same time. The potential panelists so far are Frankie Hanes, Ursula Minor, and Sean Alexander from the Langston Hughes Center.

Finally, we discussed the results of our LWV-LDV DEI survey. We reviewed question results and noted areas where the results were notable or interesting to our purpose. The overall result from the study was that most members/respondents were open to our committee providing various classes/sessions. There were several great ideas on the open-ended questions surrounding the needs of membership and also ideas from our membership regarding what they would like to see offered. We plan to go over these more in-depth individually and work on a more systematic plan of action based on our 2021 goals.

- Tracy Matthews
Chair, DEI committee

DEI SELF-EDUCATION

Watch and reflect upon these brief video clips:

Dr. Robin DiAngelo Wants White People to Stop Saying They're Not Racist (6:32 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZfSjTHVqA>

Racism Is Real—Systematic Racism Explained by “Brave New Films” (3:04)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTcSVQJ2h8g>

We all have implicit biases. So what can we do about them? by Dushaw Hockett (12 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKHSJHkPeLY>

5 Tips for Being an Ally by Franchesca Ramsey (3:44 min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_dg86g-QIM0

MONTHLY GREEN CHALLENGE

Each month, we challenge members to take one action toward living a “green,” sustainable life-style and fighting climate change. This month’s challenge: Reduce energy waste.

1. Unplug. Electronics that are turned off but plugged into the wall can still draw power. Unplug your chargers, paper shredder, toaster, blender, microwave, and other items when you're not using them.

2. Use LEDs. LEDs use at least 75 percent less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting.

3. Warm laundry. Washing clothes on “warm” instead of “hot” can cut a load’s energy use in half.

4. Air dry dishes. When your dishwasher gets to the drying cycle, open the door to let dishes air dry.

5. Stop screensavers. Power down your electronics instead of leaving them in standby. In a year, TVs, cable boxes, or video game consoles use more energy in “standby mode” than they do in active use.

6. Check your water heater temperature. In most households, 120 degrees is a sufficient temperature to heat water in a home.

7. Recycle toys, even if worn! One company has announced a free toy takeback or “playback” program. Here’s how it works:

Go to [Mattel.com/PlayBack](https://www.mattel.com/PlayBack) to print a **free shipping label**, then pack and mail outgrown Mattel toys back to Mattel. U.S. and Canadian consumers without computers or printers can request a shipping label over the phone by calling 800-524-8697.

The collected toys will be sorted and separated by material type before being processed and recycled, the company said.”

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/shopping/2021/05/10/mattel-playback-program-barbie-matchbox-mega-recycle-reuse/5004700001/>

CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNER OF THE LWVL- DC SCHOLARSHIP!

Zora Lotton-Barker, a senior at Lawrence High School, is the recipient of LWVL-DC’s annual scholarship. In the fall, Zora plans to attend Mount Holyoke College to study History and Journalism before heading off to law school with the hopes of becoming a civil rights attorney. Her goal to expand voter access as an attorney and uplift the voices of marginalized people.



Zora has been involved in a wide variety of activities: studying dance at the Lawrence Arts Center; active in the Lawrence Arts Center Summer Youth Theater as

an actor and then a student intern director; and currently the co-Editor-in-Chief for her high school’s newspaper, The Budget.

Interested in international politics and public speaking, Zora has served as a delegate and an officer in Model United Nations. For two years in a row, Zora and her partner have advanced to the national level of the National History Day competition. Their project last year covering dance legend Alvin Alley was showcased at the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture. They will return with their documentary discussing the contributions of African American filmmaker Julie Dash.

The League looks forward to hearing about Zora’s future activities!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LWVL-DC ANNUAL MEETING

April 19, 2021 7:00 p.m. Virtual via ZOOM

Kristin Salmans introduced new members and lifetime members in attendance and called the business meeting to order. The quorum of at least 15% of the membership was present as required by our Bylaws. We currently have 278 members and 42 members were signed in which exactly met the quorum requirement.

Brian Kuehl presented the proposal to increase local dues. Tracy Matthews moved the adoption of the proposed dues increase and Ruth Lichtwardt seconded. After discussion the motion passed.

Brian Kuehl presented the proposed budget for 2021-2022. Marlene Merrill moved the adoption of the proposed budget and marci francisco seconded. After discussion the motion passed.

Marlene Merrill reviewed the proposed bylaws revisions. Marlene moved the adoption of the bylaws revisions and Kay Johnson seconded. After discussion the motion passed.

Jan Roth, Co-chair of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for election at the Annual Meeting:

OFFICERS: President, Emily Riner; President-Elect, Tracy Matthews; Vice President, Kristin Salmans; Secretary, Sharon Brown

DIRECTORS: Cille King, Sonja Czarniecki, Marjorie Cole, Kay Johnson, Denise Pettengill

2021-2022 Nominating Committee: Jan Roth and Marilyn Hall, Co-Chairs, Ellen Paulsen

Kristin asked if there were further nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed. Jan requested that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of nominees. Marlene Merrill seconded and the motion passed. The following board members are completing the second year of their terms and were not up for election: Treasurer, Melissa Wick and Directors, Tamara Cash, Charley Crabtree, Martha Silks

Five members offered directions to the Board for the coming year and these suggestions will be discussed at an upcoming board orientation. K

Kristin thanked everyone in attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

- Sharon Brown, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINUTES - LWVL-DC BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2021

Present: Kristin Salmans (President), Marjorie Cole (Vice President), Melissa Wick (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Tamara Cash, Charley Crabtree, Cille King, Tracy Matthews, Denise Pettengill, Emily Riner, Martha Silks

Absent: Becky Plate

Guests: Sonja Czarniecki, Jim Fluker, Kay Johnson, Ma'Ko'Quah Jones, Jeanne Klein, Brian Kuehl, Norma Pierce

Kristin called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Marjorie moved and Jeanne seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

TREASURER: Melissa reported income of \$641.06 in March (dues) and expenses of \$1,354.79 (VOTER printing \$32.79, postage \$66, National PMP \$1,256).

BALANCE SHEET 04/01/21

MMA	\$27,908.72
CHECKING (03/01/2021)	\$11,051.19
NAT'L EDUC FUND	\$4,843.39
L/DC SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$4,709.33
CHECKING (03/31/2021)	\$10,337.46

DEI COMMITTEE: Tracy announced a survey update: 52 responses have been received which is a 20% return rate. A DEI sub-committee is partnering with Lawrence Public Library to schedule several future community events.

CASE METHOD INSTITUTE: Sonja reported on her participation in the Harvard Case Method Institute which provided professional development for teachers of American History. She had 8 hours of preparation for the April 3 Zoom Webinar and now has access to a full range of US history materials to use in her classroom.

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE: Ma'Ko'Quah announced that the league committee would like to add more members. The Lawrence Sustainability Advisory Board is also recruiting new members from the community.

PRESIDENT: A LWV Rural Affairs Caucus meeting was held March 24. Thirty states are participating and will be organized in districts. Kansas will be in the SW District. Health care is a main issue and other topics include provision of internet access and outreach to voters. At a special Hot Topics meeting on May 24, 2021, Kristen will present a full report regarding her attendance at the United Nations CSW65 Meetings held in March.

- Sharon Brown, Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

Melinda Henderson, long-time League member and a past LWVL-DC president (2012-2013), died May 11, 2021. During her tenure as League president, she strongly encouraged our League to reach out to the community using social media. She will be remembered for her strong interest in community affairs, willingness to express her opinions, activity in the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association and other civic organizations in Lawrence. She will be missed.

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF LAWRENCE-DOUGLAS COUNTY

Make a Difference - Join/Support the League!

Return this form with a check made out to LWVL/DC, and mail to the address below.

Membership is open to any person who is sixteen years of age or older.

New or renewed memberships received now will expire March 31, 2022

Date _____ Renewing Member _____ New Member _____

I heard about the League via (Facebook, website, friend, other): _____

Membership Dues:*

Approximate Household Income	Individual Membership	Household Membership
Student* (until 1/2021)	FREE	FREE
Under \$25,000***	\$25	\$40
\$25,000 to \$50,000	\$40	\$60
Over \$50,000	\$60	\$90
Sustaining member	\$100	\$150
Life member (of 50 years)	\$0	

* Our membership assessment supports the National & State Leagues at \$50/member (\$32 National and \$20 State).

** Student members: 16 and older and enrolled in an accredited school.

***Under \$25,000 Pay what you can, we need your voice at the table!

_____ I am not a member but would like to support the League with my contribution as indicated below.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for League General Fund.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for League Education Fund.****

**** this contribution is tax-deductible. Write check to "LWV Education Fund."

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Address _____ (ZIP) _____

Phone _____ Email _____
(each member)

As a League member or supporter, I would like to help support League activities by participating in:

General Membership Meetings:

- Set up and/or tear down
- Hospitality (provide coffee/tea/dessert)
- Taking notes/writing report of meeting

Membership

- Recruitment
- Mentor/follow-up with new members
- Provide a ride to a member
- Phone members without internet access

Voter Services

- Register voters
- Help with voter education

Contribute to the League by:

- Researching for League studies on issues
- Participating in fund-raising activities
- Attending/reporting on government meetings
- Representing the League at community events
- Serving on the Board of Directors

I have the following skills:

- Editing articles/reports
- Database management
- Microsoft Word / Excel / Quickbooks
- Website/Social Media design/management

My interests include:

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lawrenceksleaguepres@gmail.com • www.lawrenceleague.com

www.facebook.com/lwvldc • www.twitter.com/lwvldc

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